

**15-DAY COMMENT PERIOD
MODIFICATIONS TO EXPRESS TERMS
FOR
PROPOSED BUILDING STANDARDS
OF THE
OFFICE OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL (OSFM)
REGARDING THE ADOPTION BY REFERENCE OF THE
2006 EDITION OF THE INTERNATIONAL FIRE CODE (IFC)
WITH AMENDMENTS INTO THE 2007 CALIFORNIA FIRE CODE
CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS TITLE 24, PART 9.**

Legend for Express Terms:

1. **California amendment (CA) brought forward without modification:** *All language will appear in italics.*
 2. **California amendment (CA) brought forward with modification:** *All language will appear in italics, modified language is shown underlined.*
 3. **New CFC language with new California amendment (CA):** CFC language shown in normal Arial 9 pt. *California amendments to CBC text is shown underlined and in italics.*
 4. **New California amendment (CA):** *California language will appear underlined and in italics.*
 5. **Repealed language:** Shown as ~~Strikeout~~.
 6. **Amended, adopted or repealed language after 45-day public comment period:** Amended, adopted, or repealed language will appear in double underline and ~~double-strikeout~~.
 7. **IFC text proposed to be removed:** Shown as ~~Strikeout~~.
 8. **Notation:** Authority and reference citations are provided at the end of each section.
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903.2.7 Group R An automatic sprinkler system installed in accordance with Section 903.3 shall be provided throughout all buildings with a Group R fire area.

Exceptions:

1. Detached one- and two-family dwellings and multiple single-family dwellings (town houses) not more than three stories above grade plane in height with a separate means of egress, unless specifically required by other sections of this Code or classified as Group R-4.
2. Group U private garages accessory to a Group R-3 occupancy.
3. Group R-3.1 occupancies not housing bedridden clients, not housing nonambulatory clients above the first floor, and not housing clients above the second floor.
4. Pursuant to Health and Safety Code Section 13113 occupancies housing ambulatory children only, none of whom are mentally ill or mentally retarded, and the buildings or portions thereof in which such children are housed are not more than two stories in height, and buildings or portions thereof housing such children have an automatic fire alarm system activated by approved smoke detectors.
5. Pursuant to Health and Safety Code Section 13143.6 occupancies licensed for protective social care which house ambulatory clients only, none of whom is a child (under the age of 18 years), or who is elderly (65 years of age or over).

An automatic sprinkler system designed in accordance with Section 903.3.1.3 shall not be utilized in Group R-4.

Authority Cited: Health and Safety Code Sections 13143, 13113, 13143.6, 17921
References: Health and Safety Code Sections 13143.

Rationale:

OSFM is proposing the amendment of this section to incorporate critical elements of the International Residential Code (IRC). During this rulemaking the Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) was not able to propose adoption of the IRC as originally planned. The IRC and the International Building Code (IBC) contain conflicting requirements in some areas as they relate to one and two family dwellings and Group U private garages accessory to them. In an effort to transition from the IBC to a future adoption of the IRC, OSFM is incorporating amendments to correlate some of the more critical conflicts into this rulemaking.

The 2006 IRC does not require fire sprinkler systems in detached one- and two- family dwellings. The scope provisions contained in Section 101.2 of the 2006 IBC specify that one- and two- family dwellings comply with the provisions of the IRC. This amendment aligns the requirement contained in the IRC with those of the IBC by specifying that one- and two family dwellings may be constructed without fire sprinklers unless required by other sections of the code. The requirement for fire sprinklers in one- and two- family dwellings is most common in licensed care occupancy groups regulated by OSFM.

In addition OSFM is proposing to bring forth these requirements and amendments regarding Group R occupancies. This amendment will exempt fire sprinklers under certain conditions. This amendment does not create a change in regulatory effect.

This amendment is also consistent with the previous requirements contained in the 2001 Triennial California Building Standards Code. This amendment does not create a change in regulatory effect.

The actions described above are reasonably necessary to carry out the purpose for which it is proposed. The rationale for these actions is to establish minimum requirements for the prevention of fire and for the protection of life and property against fire and panic in occupancies that are addressed in the 2006 International Fire Code and published as the 2007 California Building Code pursuant to Health and Safety Code Section 18949.2, 13108, 13113, 13114, 13131.5, 13143 and 17921.

**TABLE 907.10.1.3
VISIBLE AND AUDIBLE ALARMS**

NUMBER OF SLEEPING UNITS	SLEEPING UNITS WITH VISIBLE AND AUDIBLE ALARMS
6 to 25	2
26 to 50	4
51 to 75	7
76 to 100	9
101 to 150	12
151 to 200	14
201 to 300	17
301 to 400	20
401 to 500	22
501 to 1,000	5% of total
1,001 and over	50 plus 3 for each 100 over 1,000

[SFM] In addition to these requirements, see Chapter 11B Section 1111B.4.5, Table 11B-3, and Table 11B-4 of the California Building Code.

Authority: Health and Safety Code Sections 13143, 17921(b)
References: Health and Safety Code Sections 13143

Rationale:

In response to comment received during the 45-day comment period stating concerns that this section may reduce current requirements for visual and audible alarms, OSFM is proposing to make an editorial amendment to add a reference to existing requirements in Chapter 11B, Section 1111B.4.5, Table 11B-3, and Table 11B-4.

The purpose of the note is to coordinate with Chapter 11B Section 1111B.4.5 and Tables 11B-3 and 11B-4. For occupancies required to comply with the access provisions in Chapter 11B the required number of visible and audible alarms are required for R-1 occupancies with less than 6 sleeping units. This reference adds clarification to the code for those occupancies required to comply with 11B

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1007.6.1 Size. Each area of refuge shall be sized to accommodate ~~one~~ two wheelchair spaces ~~that are not less than~~ of 30 inches by 48 inches (762 mm by 1219 mm). ~~The total number of such 30-inch by 48-inch (762 mm by 1219 mm) spaces per story shall be not less than one for every 200 persons of calculated occupant load served by the area of rescue refuge, for each 200 occupants or portion thereof, based on the occupant load of the area of refuge and areas served by the area of refuge.~~ Such wheelchair spaces shall not reduce the required means of egress width. Access to any of the required wheelchair spaces in an area of refuge shall not be obstructed by more than one adjoining wheelchair space

Exception: The enforcing agency may reduce the size of each required area of refuge to accommodate one wheelchair space that is not less than 30 inches by 48 inches on floors where the occupant load is less than 200.

Authority: Health and Safety Code Sections 13108, 13143
References: Health and Safety Code Sections 13143

Rationale:

OSFM is correlating this amendment which is derived from the amendment proposed to the IBC. The promulgation and format of the IFC and IBC necessitate this action. Code sections that have [B] in front of them are considered by the ICC Building Code Development Committee for the IBC and correlated into the IFC where necessary. OSFM is following the format of the code in these instances; where the primary code is the IBC and OSFM is proposing amendments to the section, those same amendments are correlated into the IFC as amendments.

[B] 1022.5 Ducts and air transfer openings. [SFM] In high-rise buildings, Group A, E, H, I and L occupancies and other applications listed in Section 111 regulated by the Office of the State Fire Marshal, ducts and air transfer openings through fire walls or fire barriers, forming a horizontal exit, shall be designed and protected in accordance with Section 716 of the California Building Code in order to afford safety from both fire and smoke in the refuge area. All ducts and air transfer openings shall be protected by listed combination fire/smoke dampers.

Authority Cited: Health and Safety Code Sections 13143
References: Health and Safety Code Sections 13143.

Rationale:

OSFM is correlating this amendment derived from the amendment proposed to the IBC. The promulgation and format of the IFC and IBC necessitate this action. Code sections that have [B] in front of them are considered by the

ICC Building Code Development Committee for the IBC and correlated into the IFC where necessary. OSFM is following the format of the code in these instances; where the primary code is the IBC and OSFM is proposing amendments to the section, those same amendments are correlated into the IFC as amendments.